



NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
PENNSYLVANIA FIELD OFFICE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 19, 2010

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USDA TO COUNT HOG AND PIG INVENTORY

HARRISBURG, PA, Apr 19, 2010 - The inventory of hogs and pigs in the United States continued to fall during the first quarter of 2010. In June, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will conduct the quarterly Hogs and Pigs survey, which will help determine if that trend continues.

During the June survey, NASS will ask producers in the 16 major hog-producing states to report their market hog and breeding stock inventories, as well as farrowing intentions as of the first of the month. Survey results will be published in the *Quarterly Hogs and Pigs* report on June 25.

"NASS's goal is to provide the most timely, accurate and unbiased information about current hog and pig inventories," said Kevin Pautler, Director of the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office. "The information gathered in this survey will allow all sectors of the pork industry to make important production and marketing decisions."

NASS will contact producers, including contractors, during the first two weeks of June. Producers have several options for responding, including telephone, mail, or through a convenient secure online reporting system.

Pautler noted that, as is the case with all NASS surveys, information provided by respondents is confidential by law. "NASS safeguards the privacy of all responses and publishes data only in aggregate form, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified," he said.

Quarterly Hogs and Pigs and all NASS reports are available online at www.nass.usda.gov. For more information, call the NASS Pennsylvania Field Office at 717-787-3904.

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